



Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney James R. Klindt
Middle District of Florida

Tampa

Orlando

Jacksonville

Fort Myers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TWO INDIVIDUALS CHARGED WITH THREATENING TO KILL A U.S. FOREST SERVICE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Tampa, Florida - Acting United States Attorney James R. Klindt today announced the unsealing of the indictment of THOMAS KLINGER, a 48-year old resident of Jonesville, Michigan, and WILLIAM SEAGRAVES, a 50 year-old resident of Altoona, Florida, charging them with threatening to murder Law Enforcement Officer Chris Crain of the U.S. Forest Service. The maximum penalties KLINGER and SEAGRAVES face if convicted on all counts include ten years' imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

According to the indictment, from March 2006 to November 2006, KLINGER and SEAGRAVES threatened to murder Officer Crain with intent to impede, intimidate and interfere with Officer Crain while he was engaged in the performance of official duties and to retaliate against Officer Crain.

The case was investigated by the United States Forest Service and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Cherie L. Krigsman.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.